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Attorney Docket No.

A2559Q2-US-NP

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Caroline Benson

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of Steven A. Buhler et al.

Group Art Unit: 2834

Application No.: 10/664,472

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 16, 2003

Confirmation No.: 4344

For: PIEZOELECTRIC TRANSDUCERS

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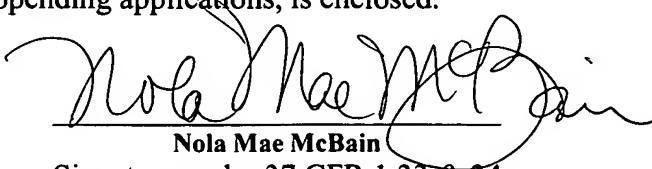
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) and information listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. One legible copy of each is attached to the PTO-1449 Form, except for U.S. Patents or published U.S. applications. It is respectfully requested that the references and information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of the above application (excluding an RCE), OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (including an RCE). *No certification or fee is required.*
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance, or other action that closes prosecution. Please debit Xerox Corporation Deposit Account 24-0025 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). *(A copy of this paper is attached.)*
- 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance; AND
  - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1); (OR)

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  - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1); (**OR**)
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- 5. Per 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3), a concise explanation of the relevance of each of any submitted item that is NOT in the English language is either enclosed herewith, or incorporated in the application specification.
- 6. A copy of an English language version of an above-referenced counterpart foreign application search report is attached.
- 7. Copies of some or all of the subject references were cited by, or submitted to the Office in related parent Application No. , filed , which is relied upon under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached (except for copies of cited pending applications). 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).
- 8. A copy of each copending application recited in the parent application of paragraph 7 above, and/or a copy of other related copending applications, is enclosed.



Nola Mae McBain  
Signature under 37 CFR 1.33 & 34  
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Date October 25, 2004

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	COUNTRY	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT	TRANSLATION Y/N
	EPO	0 803 918 A1	Oct. 29, 1997	Seiko Epson Corporation	Y
	EPO	0 787 588 A2	Aug. 6, 1997	Sony Corporation	Y

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author (in CAPS), Title, Publication Date, Pages, etc.)

European Search Report for EPO Counterpart Application No. EP 03 028 768.4 14 July 2004

EXAMINER

**DATE CONSIDERED**

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
(1) X ✓	EP 0 803 918 A (SEIKO EPSON CORP) 29 October 1997 (1997-10-29) * column 9, line 19 - column 10, line 36; figures 7-10 *	1-10	B41J2/14
(2) X ✓	EP 0 787 588 A (SONY CORP) 6 August 1997 (1997-08-06) * column 15, line 24 - column 17, line 44; figures 38,41 *	1,9,10	
(3) X ✓	US 4 613 875 A (LE HUE P ET AL) 23 September 1986 (1986-09-23) * column 6, line 54 - column 7, line 17; figures 1,2 *	1,9,10	
TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)			
B41J			
2	The present search report has been drawn up for all claims		
EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P4/C01)	Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
	Munich	14 July 2004	Vorwerg, N
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone	T : theory or principle underlying the invention		
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category	E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date		
A : technological background	D : document cited in the application		
O : non-written disclosure	L : document cited for other reasons		
P : intermediate document	& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		